

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 00223 190937Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /156 W

----- 117021

R 181555Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2932

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR RW US

SUBJ: PRESENTATION CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA

NAIROBI FOR REDSO/EA

DEPT ALSO FOR AID

1. I PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA MORNING APRIL 18. PRESIDENT WAS RELAXED, LOOKED FIT FOLLOWING HIS RECENT OFFICIAL VISITS TO BELGIUM AND FRANCE, AND IN WHAT I UNDERSTAND IS DEPARTURE FROM USUAL CUSTOM WORE A CIVILIAN SUIT RATHER THAN MILITARY UNIFORM OR SAFARI OUTFIT.

2. US ASSISTANCE. CONVERSATION WAS GENERALLY NON-SUBSTANTIVE, BUT PRESIDENT WASTED NO TIME IN EXPRESSING HOPE US-GOR RELATIONS, WHICH WERE EXCELLENT IN POLITICAL SENSE, WOULD SOON BE SOLIDIFIED THROUGH AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. I NOTED OUR RECENT EFFORTS TO DEVELOPE PROJECTS

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 00223 190937Z

AND EXPRESSED OUR INTENTION CONTRIBUTE TO GOR ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN A MODEST BUT SIGNIFICANT WAY. HE WAS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT FOOD STORAGE PROJECT AND APPEARED PLEASED WHEN I INFORMED HIM WE EXPECTED A USG TEAM IN RWANDA ON OR ABOUT MAY 6 TO EXPLORE PROJECT FURTHER.

3. BEING AWARE BELGIAN-RWANDAN FRICTIONS OVER SLOW IMPLEMENTATION BELGIAN AID, I NOTED MY PERSONAL INTEREST IN ACCELERATING PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER PROJECTS WE MAY UNDERTAKE IN FUTURE WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. I ALSO STATED MY INTENTION TO GET OUT IN THE COUNTRY QUICKLY IN ORDER TO GET A PERSONAL GRASP OF RWANDA'S PROBLEMS. THE PRESIDENT APPEARED PLEASED AND INDICATED GOR WOULD ALSO DO ITS BEST IN ACCELERATION, ALTHOUGH IT SUFFERED FROM NORMAL LDC STAFFING PROBLEMS.

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. DURING DISCUSSION, I DREW FROM PRESIDENT NIXON'S COMMENTS AT CREDENTIALS CEREMONY FOR NEW GOR AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, SUMMARIZED SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AT ASST SEC EASUM'S SWEARING-IN CEREMONY, AND REITERATED LATTER'S "PORTE EST OUVERTE" PHRASE IN CONTEXT OF USG INTEREST IN AFRICAN IDEAS AND PROBLEMS. I NOTED USG APPRECIATION GOR CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PRESIDENT STATED SIMILAR APPRECIATION FOR US EFFORTS IN QUEST FOR WORLD PEACE.

5. AUSTERITY. IN ACCORDANCE AUSTERITY IMAGE SECOND REPUBLIC, THERE WERE NO NATIONAL ANTHEMS, NO EXCHANGE OF FORMAL REMARKS AND NO CHAMPAGNE.

6. COMMENT: NOT SURPRISINGLY, GOR FOCUS REMAINS ON US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AS EVIDENCED BY DESIRE FOR "CON-

CRETISATION" OF OUR RELATIONS--A PHRASE EXPRESSED BY GOR AMB IN WASHINGTON AT HIS CREDENTIALS CEREMONY AND BY PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA TO ME. WITHOUT EXPLICIT LINKAGE, WE WILL CONTINUE NOTE FROM OUR SIDE IMPORTANCE OF CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.  
FRITTS

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## Message Attributes

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